Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Information furnished in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Letter dated 17 July 2015 from the Legal Services Department of the European Space Agency addressed to the Secretary-General

In conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex), the rights and obligations of which the European Space Agency (ESA) has declared its acceptance of, the Agency has the honour to transmit information on the Sentinel-2A satellite, which was launched into orbit by ESA on 23 June 2015 and which is owned by the European Union (see annex).

(Signed)
Marco Ferrazzani
ESA Legal Counsel and Head of the Legal Services Department
Annex

Registration data on a space object launched by the European Space Agency*

Sentinel-2A

Information provided in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Committee on Space Research international designator: 2014-028A
Name of space object: Sentinel-2A
State of registry: European Space Agency (ESA)
Date and territory or location of launch: 23 June 2015 at 0151 hours, 58 seconds, UTC
Europe’s Spaceport, Kourou, French Guiana

Basic orbital parameters

- Nodal period: 100.7 minutes
- Inclination: 98.57 degrees
- Apogee: 790 kilometres
- Perigee: 788 kilometres

General function of space object: Sentinel-2A is the second satellite under Europe’s Copernicus programme. The satellite carries an innovative multispectral imager (MSI) instrument covering 13 spectral bands to provide high-resolution optical images of agriculture, forests, land-use change and provides continuity and expands on the French SPOT and the United States’ Landsat missions. It will be complemented by Sentinel-2B in 2016 to form a constellation orbiting 180 degrees apart, covering the Earth’s land surfaces, large islands and inland and coastal waters every five days.

Pursuant to the Agreement between the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and the European Space Agency on the Implementation of the Copernicus Programme, including the Transfer of Ownership of Sentinels (Copernicus Agreement), which entered into force on 28 October 2014, ownership of Sentinel-2A was transferred to the European Union at the moment of lift-off of the satellite’s launch vehicle.

* The information was submitted using the form prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/101 and has been reformatted by the Secretariat.
Additional voluntary information for use in the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Change of supervision of the space object

Space object owner/operator: Owner: European Union  
Operator: European Space Agency

Launch vehicle: Vega